NeoPopRealism Journal

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February, 2008

Embracing The Educational Renaissance

At the end of February NYC welcomes participants of 2008 NAIS Annual Conference. NAIS is the National Association Of Independent Schools. Purpose of this conference is creating schools of the future, a collaboration and finding new ways to solutions and success...

Participants of NAIS Annual Conference: Flansburgh Architects, Hord Coplan Macht, Inc., Buck Simpers Architect + Associates, Inc., Imagepath, ATT Sports, Inc., Cengage Learning, SeniorSystems, Wye River Group, Bolton & Company, Gulir Art, Budgetext Corporation, Direct, Productive Education LLC, CCS, Starry Night, International Baccalaureate, ISM, GCA Services Group, APB, YourMembership.com, Tri-C Publications, Inc., Magic Hour Communications,
ConserveNation, the First Marblehead Corporation, Info Snap, ClubGetaway, Nadaskay Kopelson Architects, The Slam Colaborative, IFAW, FCD Educational Services... To name a few.

The Museum Triangle

While the French banks're in a turmoil, the Spanish ones continue to pursue their cultural objective in a decisive manner. The Caixa, the giant in Barcelona, inaugurated on 15 February its centre in Madrid: a real symbol at a time where the media insist on the autonomist drift in the Catalogne province. Located in the district of the museums, a few meters from the Prado, the Reina SofÃa & the Thyssen-Bornemisza, the large cube of the Caixa Forum is a former electric plant bearing a modern head dress in brown metal & enriched with a vegetable wall. It required an investment of 60 million â,¬, and was designed by architects Herzog & Meuron. With various shows & exhibition rooms, it'll host for its inauguration, as of 21 February, a retrospective dedicated to the sculptor Igor Mitoraj.

Creating Confidence, Offering Security

Nadir Shaikh, Chairman of the Board of Citibank Ukraine, explained that SME firms & medium-sized projects're the ones that would benefit most if Ukraine settles its dispute with OPIC.
Shaikh has been one of the persons most active in promoting a settlement with OPIC. He as recently as two weeks ago participated in a meeting with senior government officials where this matter was discussed.
The largest foreign firms come to Ukraine fully
prepared to finance their own way into the Ukrainian market. Their
investments're based on advice from the most sophisticated sources in their own companies or from professional advisers such as investment banks. It is the smaller foreign investors who need the type of help & risk coverage that OPIC is able to give.
Making OPIC political risk insurance available would give many smaller foreign investors the kind of backing that would 1st
help convince their own boards of the viability of investments in Ukraine, & would also assist them in finding financing for projects in Ukraine or in their home country.
In addition, it would help Ukrainian companies to get access to financing that could be provided by such banks as Citibank, based on OPIC risk coverage programmes.
Settling the current dispute requires a firm decision & political will on the part of government to find a financing mechanism to pay the current claim. Shaikh is optimistic that the efforts of the current government're more likely to find a solution to this problem.

The National Museum Of Catholic Art

The National Museum of Catholic Art and History in New York City will be showing a mural scale painting of mine in a show curated by Mariavelia Savino. The museum will also be showing many other artists, including Andy Warhol, Arman, Fernando Botero, and Anthony Van Dyck.

The National Museum of Catholic Art and History located in Manhattan,443 East 115th Street, New York. For more info contact info@nmcah.org

Mr. Broad Offers A Museum

The founder of the real estate company Kaufman & Broad, Eli Broad is one of the wealthiest persons in the USA. A philanthropist, he already offered 100 million $ to Harvard. And just as much to MIT. It is now his art lover side that steps forward: indeed, he has given $60,000 000 to the development plan of the LA County Museum of Art - LACMA. This contribution has helped in particular to finance a new pavilion designed by Renzo Piano. The marble building, with huge lofts & natural light for temporary exhibitions'll naturally be named for its patron: it'll be the Broad Contemporary Art Museum - BCAM. Its "piece de resistance" will be Band, the immense sculpture by Richard Serra recently purchased. The inauguration will be on 16 February It will be touchy, as it follows the near slap across the wall Eli Broad just gave the LACMA: after more or less explicitly promising his personal collection & that of his foundation, that has nearly 2000 works in total, he has pulled back as he prefers to build another art museum just for himself. The directors of the art museum'll have a bad taste in their mouths as they admire the 160 pieces exhibited at the opening of the BCAM: the 1st class Koons, Hirst, Jasper Johns, Rauschenberg or Basquiat'll not be staying there for long. The Broad Contemporary Art Museum'll be inaugurated on 16 February on the campus of the LACMA.

Netherlands: 2nd International Arms & Armour Auction

Auction days - Saturday 8th March, 2008, starting at 10:00 a.m..
Viewing days: Saturday 1st through Thursday 6th March, daily from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Auction house is open for new consignments during the normal business hours. For large collections Auction' representatives can visit at home on appointment.
Weapon Auction "Mosa Trajectum" will be April 12, 2008. Viewing days: 5 - 9 April 2008
daily from 10:00 ha.m. – 17.00 p.m.

Academy Awards and Writers' Strikes

Optimism was in the air Monday among Academy Awards nominees both on their films' prospects & the chances that Hollywood's crippling writers strike'll end in time for the Oscars show to go on as planned. Viggo Mortensen, a best-actor contender for the crime tale "Easter Promises," who was among about 120 nominees attending an annual Oscar luncheon, said that he is a positive individual. And he thinks the sun will come up tomorrow. He thinks that there will be a proper Oscars, & 'Eastern Promises' has a good chance to win an award. The fate of the Oscars on Feb. 24 remains uncertain but looks brighter as the Writers Guild of America makes progress on a new contract with producers that would end the union's three-month-old strike. Insiders say writers & producers made a breakthrough on negotiations late last week that has left everyone in Hollywood hopeful that the labor quarrel would be settled. That would allow the Oscars to avoid the fate that has been looming since the Golden Globes, whose glitzy telecast was scrapped after stars made it clear they would stay away in honor of writers picket lines. George Clooney, a supporting-actor winner for "Syriana" who is nominated as best actor this time for the legal drama "Michael Clayton," repeated his

vow that he would not attend the Oscars if it meant crossing picket lines. But he said the deal in the works between writers & producers has a good shot at success. Nominees said they would be thrilled if the Oscars could go on, though it was more important that hardships be resolved for writers & others in Hollywood unemployed by the strike, which has shut down TV productions & delayed some movies. Tony Gilroy, a best director nominee for "Michael Cayton" said that it's his absolute hope they get to go & get dressed up, but he thinks in the framework of all the people who have been out of work & all the economics that has wreaked such havoc in so many people's lives, he thinks that whether he want to get dressed up & go to a party is a little bit less important...

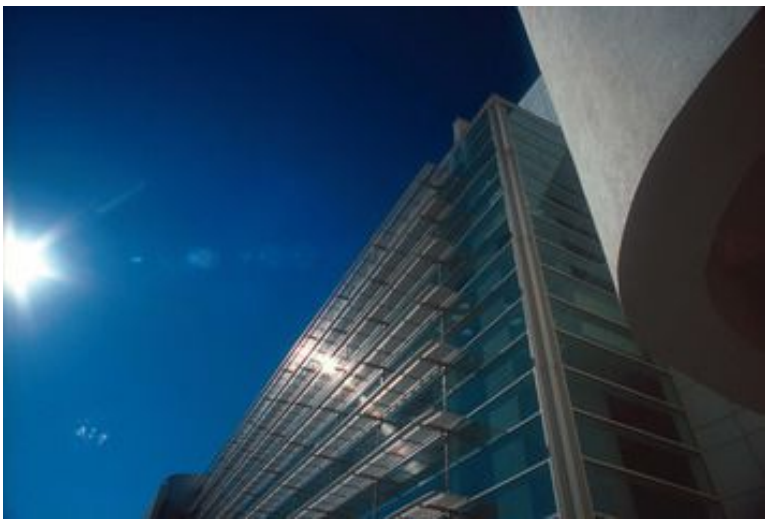
Metropolitan Museum of Art

The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York has hired an executive-search firm to look for a new director. The museum's current director, Philippe de Montebello, said last month he plans to retire by the end of the year after leading the museum for more than 3 decades. The museum said the New York–based recruiting firm Phillips Oppenheim'll help organize a global search & coordinate with the museum's search committee, which is chaired by Annette de la Renta. The firm is already looking to fill director-level positions in at least 4 museums, including the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco & the DeCordova Museum & Sculpture Park in Lincoln, Massachusetts, according to the firm's website. Past clients include the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York & the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago. The headhunting task comes as some museum directors across the country're grappling with increasing budgets, decreasing federal & corporate funding, & several years of flat attendance. At least 20 American museums're currently searching for new directors, according to the Association of Art Museum Directors, a New York–based nonprofit representing more than 180 museum directors.

Legaltech

Legaltech is one of the most important legal technology events of the year. It takes place in the Hilton New York hotel February 5-7, 2008. Legaltech presents such companies as Kroll Ontrack, V3locity, Screen Sweep, CT Corporation, Chase Bank, Redwood Analytics, etc. Legatech once described as a city is feeling more like the Universe of legal technology. Faculty, vendors, association partners, advisers, legal technology specialists will be together over the thee days to take others through this unique galaxy of the best this industry has to offer. Three days event has purpose to develop relationships between companies and its new clients, find solutions to problems, get new ideas and new clientele...

For Designating Its Director



The Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona (MACBA) is a cultural institution with the legal structure of a public consortium, formed by the Catalan Government, Barcelona City Council and the MACBA Foundation. At the end of 2007 the incorporation of the Ministry of Culture into the consortium was approved & will come into effect this year. According to the consortium statutes, the administrations're responsible for supplying the necessary resources for the regular operation & the MACBA Foundation the resources for the MACBA Collection. The

governing bodies of MACBA are the Board and its Delegate Committee. The development of the museum activities has contributed to the international recognition of MACBA and the will to continue along the lines begun in recent years. The director of the museum, as laid down in the statutes, has the following functions: The direction of the Museum administration and the implementation of the agreements of the Council Board &the Delegate Committee; The artistic direction of the Museum; The direction of all the staff; Technical advice to the other organs of the Consortium; Responsible for the museum's programming and budget; Any functions delegated by the governing bodies of the Museum. The specific criteria for assessment'l be: Professional excellence assessed through academic training & rofessional experience in the field of contemporary art; Knowledge & inks with the Catalan cultural & rtistic world; Knowledge of & elations with the international contemporary art world; All scientific works (publications, academic recognition, etc.) or distinctions in the sphere of contemporary art & ulture (awards, etc.) The candidate appointed to occupy the position'll sign a senior management contract for a period of 5 years with the possibility of renewal. The labor relation'll be regulated by the terms of the contract and applicable rules and regulations. The stipulated gross salary is 120,000 euros per year. The candidates must submit their CV & any documents accrediting the merits mentioned in it, & a report that reflects the general lines of the project for the coming years. These documents must be submitted in Catalan, Spanish &/or English & sent to the Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona by 14 March 2008. The confidentiality of the candidates taking part in this selection process is guaranteed, as're all their personal or professional data, & only the name of the winning candidate'll be made public.

Microsoft Has Offered To Yahoo...

The world's top software company could boost its online presence dramatically if Yahoo accepts a $44.6 billion bid to be purchased.
Microsoft has offered Yahoo shareholders a 62 percent premium on their shares to sell the company.
Yahoo's latest disappointing earnings announcement helped to depress the stock price, making it a renewed target for a takeover. "We have great respect for Yahoo!, and together we can offer an increasingly exciting set of solutions for consumers, publishers and advertisers while becoming better positioned to compete in the online services market," Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer said in a statement.
With online advertising projected to grow to $80 billion by 2010, Microsoft can grab a larger slice of that pie if it can pull in Yahoo, which ranks as the world's heaviest trafficked web property.

Oscar

An Oscars contingency plan that would include history, film clips & out-of-the-ordinary concepts for the awards show is in the works. With the writers strike dragging dangerously close to the February 24 telecast, the film academy is planning 2 Oscar shows: "The show we would love to do and ... a show that we would prefer not to do," Ganis said. The traditional, star-studded glamour-fest is in the works in case an agreement is reached. If not, organizers're working on a 2nd show that will include history & packages of film & concepts that're not normally ones that we would have for the show if we were moving straight ahead. The show'll go on regardless of talks status. "Gains said that that he has an obligation to the art form to present the Oscars, so we have to deal with the possibility of not being able to do the show because of pickets or agreements not being concluded. This time the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences is talking with striking writers. "We have made contact with the guild," Unger said. "We want to be able to do the kind of Oscar show that we always do, & we want to create the circumstances that will allow us to do that." Nominations for the 80th Academy Awards were announced last week. In past years, presenters were announced one-by-one before or shortly after the nominations, but none have been named so far this year. Final ballots were mailed Wednesday to the 5,829 voting members of the academy. They are due back February 19.

January, 2008
The donation made to Matisse

The Matisse museum, opened in 1952, has greatly enriched itself. Alice Tériade (1917-2007) was the widow of the great publisher Tériade, known among other things for his famous magazine «Verve». She left the museum the couple's famous collection. It is clear that decades of relations with the greatest creators of the XXth century, were bound to have an important result. When the museum reopened, in 2002, a real ensemble of artists' books integrated the collections. Today, it is the turn of the second part of the donation, with 39 strong works of modern art, among

them sculptures: the Grande Femme III by Giacometti, Lune by Laurens, Ubu by Miró. As well as an above all elements designed by Matisse himself for his friend's Mediterranean villa: a stained-glass window, the Poissons chinois, and a ceramic composition, the Platane. The Cateau-Cambrésis has become once again a fundamental point in all Matisse pilgrimages, and not only for having been the a rtist's birth place. La donation Tériade is shown at the Musée départemental Matisse since 27 January 2008.

'Old Men'

The three stars of "No Country for Old Men" are proud that their film has received such fine notices, and defend it from criticism about its ending. The film is considered the Oscar best picture front-runner. Tommy Lee Jones, Javier Bardem and Josh Brolin each light up while, all dressed in dark suits, they gather in a back room at Manhattan restaurant Cipriani's for the National Board of Review Awards. While Jones fiddles with the matches, Brolin rolls his eyes & alludes to Jones' Ivy League education: "Harvard," he says in disbelief. The NBR Awards, which named the film the year's best picture, are just one of many to honor the Coen brothers' movie, adapted from Cormac McCarthy's novel. Last week, "No Country" was nominated for eight Oscars, including best picture and best supporting actor for Bardem. Jones was also nominated for best actor for his performance in "In the Valley of Elah."

The Economy and its impact on the Immigrant Community

The impact of the economy in the immigrants community will be the topic of a round table at the Business Expo of the Greater New York Chamber of Commerce, on Thursday, January 31,2008 at the Madison Square Garden. The panel will be integrated by Dr Guillermo Linares, Commissioner on Immigrants Affairs of the City of New York, and moderated by Edward Juarez, President and Founder of the International Immigrants Foundation, who will be joined also by political candidates, elected officials and business representatives. In the words of Juarez, "the consequences of the economic crisis today and its impact, as well as the new policies had created an atmosphere of fear, hunting the economy by alienating a much needed labor force..."

Fraudulent Transactions

The trader accused of making fraudulent transactions that cost Societe Generale €4.9 billion hacked computers. He used several techniques of fraud. In a 5-page document, Societe Generale rebutted suggestions it had disrupted markets as it unravelled the $73.5 billion in bets placed on European markets by the 31-year-old trader. The bank took three days last week to sell the contracts on the Eurostoxx, DAX and FTSE indices at a loss of $7.21 billion, but it insisted Sunday it did so in a "controlled" way. Chief executive Jean-Pierre Mustier said Kerviel appeared not to have profited personally from the transactions. He worked alone. But The Associated Press reported him as saying: "I cannot guarantee to you 100 percent that there was no complicity." Kerviel was taken into custody on Saturday. Under French judicial law he can be held until Monday afternoon. Kerviel is accused of making fraudulent transactions involving European index futures that were beyond his permitted trading limits, and in creating false transactions to cover his tracks.

Museums

In the beginning he was the second novice in the small screw shop of his father's. Today, at the age of 73, Reinhold Würth is at the head of an empire with a revenue of 8 billion €. Mr Würth does not only manufacture screws and screwdrivers. He also has a passion for culture. Aside from patronizing various musical and litterary events, the restauration of historical monuments (the Palatine chapel in Palermo), he has collected contemporary art works for the last fifty years. He has something of the old fashioned patron of the past, and there fore wants his employees to benefit from this as well. The museum, inaugurated on 27 January in the industrial zone of Erstein, in Alsacia, is the twelfth he opens, after the ones in Switzerland, Germany, Spain or Norway. It was designed by architects Jacques and Clément Vergély, and will offer over 800 m2 temporary exhibitions of the Würth fund. It includes today 10 000 works by Monet, Picasso and from Kirchner to Magritte, Poliakoff and Baselitz.

Sex And Class

Andrew Davies is talking about sex. He is also talking about Jane Austen, beloved chronicler of early 19th century English manners. Her work, Davies argues, is not just social comedy. It's about money, struggle for individualism, sex, all the kinds of things that interest us now. Jane Austen is regarded as such a prim writer. The engine of her plot is often sexual desire At 71, he reigns as the King of Adapters. His long list of Emmy- and Peabody-winning projects includes adaptations of modern fiction such as the splendid British miniseries "House of Cards" as well as the Pierce Brosnan-starring thriller "The Tailor of Panama" & the two "Bridget Jones" films. But what has clinched his reputation are robust TV retellings of literary classics by Dickens, Thackeray, Defoe, George Eliot and Jane Austen. He's well represented in the current festival of six Austen adaptations airing on PBS' "Masterpiece". Four are from his hand. Encores from the mid-1990s are "Emma" & "Pride & Prejudice," the latter being memorable for Colin Firth's body-clinging, sopping-wet shirt as Mr. Darcy. Davies' other contributions to "The Complete Jane Austen" are new productions of "Sense & Sensibility," with David Morrissey. And, airing 9 p.m. EST Sunday, a charming parody of gothic fiction, "Northanger Abbey," whose virginal teen heroine, Catherine Morland (Felicity Jones) displays a penchant for romantic, even erotic fantasies....

Love Productions

LOVE Productions Presents Butterscotch. New York City's Hilton, Monday 14, 2008.
From the streets of northern California to Hollywood in one short jump. Butterscotch not only dazzled three top hardened show business legends, but all of America as well. Butterscotch was 1st seen on NBC's top rated television show, "American's Got Talent." Overnight this girl became America's new sweetheart.
Fighting all the way to the finals, as being the only female to get that far, Butterscotch started a career that is on the fast track to stardom. her beat box style coupled with a sensational jazz influenced signing voice that sets this lady apart from the rest.
The entire show is backed by Jonathan Arons All Stars. Jonathan Arons, has been featured on the Tonight Show starring Jay Leno and the Maury Povich show, as an extraordinary successful solo trombone sensation. Jonathan Arons brings his all star band, as back up music to this delightful new signing star's show...

Supreme Talent International Presents in Hilton, NY

This weekend SupremeTalent International presents in Hilton (New York) 'Five Guys Named Moe', 'Sophisticated Ledies,' and much more.
Five Guys Named Moe is the hot Louis Jordan review that's more like a swinging party than a show. Reviewers rave about this sparkling new production directed by A. Curtis Farrow. Five Guys Named Moe involves the audience and spreads its infectious energy throughout the theatre. Signing old favorites like "Saturday Night Fish Fry" and the raucous "Caldonia" this cast of entertainers practically knock themselves out to make sure the audience is having a good time. In their multicolored Zoot Siuts the five Moes harmonize, xroon, wail, tap and joke their way through 27 Louis Jordan hits. The show stopping "Choo Choo Choo Booglie" and the sentimental "Don't Let The Sun Catch You Crying" are crowd pleasers of the 1st order. The audience finds it impossible to resist joining in the riotous "Push Ka Pi Shi Pie" rumba line or throwing their hands in the air and shouting "MOP!" when egged on by the comic Moes who seem like cartoon characters come to life.

Golden Globes

For the first several years of its existence, the Golden Globes (like many other Hollywood awards) were an insular affair. The Hollywood Foreign Press Association, which began presenting the awards in 1944, was content to rent a ballroom at a local hotel, hand out trophies to stars or their representatives & generally sponsor a good time. It wasn't until the late '50s that the awards were televised (and then only in LA) & not until 1966 that they received a national broadcast of their own. In 1964 & 1965, the Globes were presented on a special segment of "The Andy Williams Show." It's only in the last decade or so, after years of bouncing from network to network, that the Globes have established themselves as a major attraction, consistently with one broadcaster (NBC) & just as consistently one of the highest-rated awards shows of the year. This year it's forward into the past. There will be no giant televised gala. There will be no red carpet on which celebrities can show off the latest fashions. There won't even be much in the way of partying afterward, since many of the studios have canceled their after-awards bashes. Instead, hamstrung by the ongoing writers' strike & actors' refusal to cross the picket line, the Globes will be presented as a one-hour press

conference on NBC at 9 ET Sunday night. The press conference will air from the Beverly Hilton, home to the Globes since the early '70s. "Access Hollywood" hosts Billy Bush & Nancy O'Dell are scheduled to announce the honors.

Eddie Murphy Got Married

Eddie Murphy celebrated New Year's Day by tying the knot with film producer Tracey Edmonds.
The pair exchanged vows Tuesday on a private island off Bora Bora in French Polynesia in front of a small group of family and friends, their representatives.
A call to Murphy's publicist, Arnold Robinson, wasn't immediately returned early Wednesday.
Murphy and Edmonds began dating last year. They were engaged in July.
Murphy, 46, has five children from his marriage to Nicole Mitchell Murphy, who filed for divorce in 2005. He also has a daughter with Spice Girls singer Melanie Brown.
Edmonds, 40, has two sons from her 13-year marriage to Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds. As head of Edmonds Entertainment Group Inc., she has produced the film and television series "Soul Food."
Murphy's film credits include "Dreamgirls," and the "Beverly Hills Cop," "Nutty Professor," "Shrek" and "Dr. Doolittle" movies.

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